

REMARKS

Applicant would like to thank the Examiner for the careful consideration given the present application. The application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office action, and amended as necessary to more clearly and particularly describe the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The claims have been amended to more particularly describe the invention, but do not include new matter. The claims have been amended distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art as interpreted by the Examiner, namely the patent references to Herrmann (U.S. 6,264,133) and Lehrieder et al. (U.S. 6,155,516).

Specifically, claim 1 has been amended to include further components of the orienting device, namely first and second side faces, one of which can be selectively opened to receive or release a positioning device and one of which is closed to prevent the positioning device, when loaded thereon, from falling off of the orienting device.

Lehrieder et al. does not show such features on transport car 27. The structure of transport car 27 is not illustrated, nor described in detail within the disclosure of Lehrieder et al. Within Herrmann, the supporting beam 22, which the Examiner states represents the orienting device, also does not include a side that can be opened in addition to a second side that is closed, as required by claim 1.

Because neither Herrmann nor Lehrieder et al. either alone or in combination teach or suggest an orienting device with a side that may be opened in addition to a closed side, a rejection of claim 1 in view of these references alone or in

combination is improper.

Additionally, neither Herrmann nor Lehrieder et al. disclose "a number of primary transport paths and a secondary transport path, wherein the primary transport paths extend *from two sides of the secondary transport path* and wherein *on each primary transport path an entrance of one of the plurality of winding stations is located or a plurality of the storage places.*" Rather, Lehrieder et al. shows primary transport paths extending from only one side of the secondary transport path. Herrmann shows primary transport paths extending from both sides of a secondary path, but each primary path does not show either a winding station or a plurality of storage spaces. In Herrmann, one primary path shows a winding station, but the opposite primary path shows only a single storage space. This is not a winding station or a plurality of storage spaces.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 is respectfully requested.

Claim 2 depends directly from claim 1 and is believed to be patentable for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 2 is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 3, neither the Herrmann nor Lehrieder et al. references, alone or in combination, teach or suggest a positioning device that is an elevating truck with a fork lift. Rather, Herrmann teaches a lifting device, but is not a truck because it is not readily transportable on wheels. Lehrieder et al. teaches a transport car that moves on rollers, but does not have the ability to elevate.

Claims 4-5 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are believed to be patentable for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the

rejection of claims 4-5 is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 6, neither the Herrmann nor the Lehrieder et al. references teach or suggest an orienting device that includes a supporting frame which is rotateable around a vertical axis and which is suspended from a supporting beam. Rather, Herrmann teaches a device including two cross beams 22, but not a frame that is suspended from the supporting beams. Lehrieder discloses a transport car, but the car is not suspended from a supporting beam either. Because a supporting frame which is suspended from a supporting beam is not taught by the references alone or in combination, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 is respectfully requested.

Claims 7-10 depend indirectly from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7-10 is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 12, neither reference, alone or in combination teaches a means for elevating that comprises a plurality of chain hoists, which are synchronously driven, as required. Rather, Herrmann teaches a vertically movable traveling trolley 20, but does not disclose the specific means for moving the trolley. Lehrieder et al. teaches a turntable for changing the orientation of a second transport car, but does not teach means more moving the turntable up or down. Because a means for elevating that comprises a plurality of chain hoists, synchronously driven, is not taught by the cited references, alone or in combination, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 12 is respectfully requested.

Claim 14 depends directly from claim 1 and is believed to be patentable for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim

14 is respectfully requested.

Regarding claim 15, neither of the cited references teaches a device for moving the orienting device along a tertiary path. Rather, within Herrmann the orienting device 22 cited by the Examiner moves only in the primary Y or secondary X directions. Within Lehrieder et al. the orienting device (turntable and second cart) also move only in a primary and secondary direction. Because a means for moving an orientation device along a tertiary path is not taught, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of the rejection of claim 15 is respectfully requested.

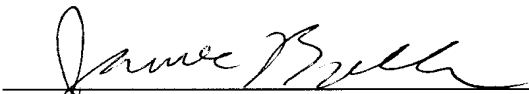
Claim 16 depends directly from claim 15 and is believed to be patentable for the reasons stated above. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 16 is respectfully requested.

In light of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and notice to that effect is hereby requested. If it is determined that the application is not in a condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to initiate a telephone interview with the undersigned attorney to expedite prosecution of the present application.

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 18-0160, our Order No. FRR-12920.

Respectfully submitted,

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